

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:3-6 (NIV)*

## **Impatient**

Why aren't I making more progress? Why aren't I advancing more quickly in my faith? Why aren't I bolder? Why aren't I stronger? Why am I not bearing more fruit for your kingdom and bringing more glory to your name? Why aren't I shining more brightly for you in this dark world? **You are impatient.** Yes, I am impatient. There is no doubt about that. **That's not good.** Why is that? **Let's talk about impatience.** I'd like that.

**What good has impatience brought into your life? How has being impatient helped you?** I'm not sure that impatience has helped me in any way. **What has happened to you when you have become impatient?** I have been discouraged and depressed when I have allowed myself to become impatient. Impatience has probably hindered rather than helped your work to continue in and through me. **Probably?** No, certainly. **How so?** It is very hard to hear your voice when I am impatient. It is very difficult to know how you are guiding me when I am impatient. It is almost impossible to know what you are giving me to do for you when I am impatient. Impatience has often made me blind and deaf to your activity in and through my life. **Yes, it has.**

**Why are you impatient? What are your expectations? How do you think I will be working in and through your life?** I'm not sure what you are asking me. **Will I change you all at once? Will I give you all I have for you all at one time? Will you be completely changed in an instant?** No, not in this life. Your work in and through me will be gradual. Your work in and through me will occur day by day as I follow you. **Why is that?** You want me to live in an intimate relationship with you. I am molded and shaped and changed as I spend time with you in your presence. I am becoming more like you as I spend time with you. **Now you see me in part and you are being changed in part each and every day as you live in an intimate relationship with me. One day you will see me in full, then you will be completely changed.** I look forward to that day, with great anticipation. **That's good.**

**For now, can you accept the work that I am doing in you? For now, can you accept the pace at which I am changing you?** You know best. I want your plan. I want what you have for me when you have it for me. I don't want to run ahead of you or lag behind you. I will be patient. I will welcome you to work in and through my life when, where, why and how you will. **That will be very good.**

*Heavenly Father, thank you for making me a partner in sharing the Gospel. Thank you for continuing your good work in me, day by day as I follow you. Guide my prayers for all my fellow partners in the Gospel. Make us all fruitful for your kingdom and glory. Amen*

**God The Father** *He Who Began A Good Work*

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

NIV Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *God, Who Began The Good Work*

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

NLT Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *The One Who Began A Good Work*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

NRSV Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *He Who Began A Good Work*

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you. In every prayer of mine I always make my entreaty and petition for you all with joy (delight). [I thank my God] for your fellowship (your sympathetic cooperation and contributions and partnership) in advancing the good news (the Gospel) from the first day [you heard it] until now. And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] and perfecting and bringing it to full completion in you.

AMP Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *He Who Began A Good Work*

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

NASB Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *He Who Began A Good Work*

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

ESV Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *He Who Has Begun A Good Work*

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

NKJV Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *God Who Started This Great Work*

Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

MSG Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *God Who Began The Good Work*

All my prayers for you are full of praise to God! When I pray for you, my heart is full of joy because of all your wonderful help in making known the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will keep right on helping you grow in his grace until his task within you is finally finished on that day when Jesus Christ returns.

TLB Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** *God Began Doing A Good Work*

I thank my God every time I remember you, always praying with joy for all of you. I thank God for the help you gave me while I preached the Good News—help you gave from the first day you believed until now. God began doing a good work in you, and I am sure he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again.

NCV Philippians 1:3-6

**God The Father** – Philippians 1:3-6

**In Context:** *Read Philippians 1*

**Begin With Prayer:** *Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.*

**Meditating On God’s Word:** *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:3-6 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** *(What words speak to your heart?)*

I thank | my God | every time | I remember you. | In all | my prayers | for all | of you, | I always pray | with joy | because of | your partnership | in the gospel | from the first day | until now, | being confident | of this, | that he | who began | a good work | in you | will carry it | on to | completion | until the day | of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:3-6 (NIV)

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**Praying The Scripture:** *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Heavenly Father, thank you for making me a partner in sharing the Gospel. Thank you for continuing your good work in me, day by day as I follow you. Guide my prayers for all my fellow partners in the Gospel. Make us all fruitful for your kingdom and glory. Amen

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**What It Means:** *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

How are you praying for your fellow followers of Jesus Christ and partners in the Gospel?

What role will prayer have in the fruitful continuation of God’s work in and through every Christ follower?

**What partnership role have you taken on with others in sharing the Good News of the Gospel?**

What role do you have in allowing your Heavenly Father to do His good work in and through you?

**How are you allowing your Heavenly Father to continue to do His good work in you?**

What might hinder your Heavenly Father’s work to continue in you?

**What good work is your Heavenly Father now doing through in and through you as you follow Jesus Christ?**

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**Living It Out:** *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Allow your Heavenly Father to keep on doing His good work in and through you.

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**Seeing It Happen:** *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that your Heavenly Father will complete the good work that He began in you

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**Get Ready To Share:** *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group what good work your Heavenly Father is doing in you.

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**Close With Prayer:** *Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you allow your Heavenly Father's good work to continue in and through you.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Heavenly Father, I will allow your good work to continue in and through me.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, how do you want to work in and through me today?*

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